



TRUST FOR
PUBLIC
LAND™



St. Croix Watershed

Spanning the border between Minnesota and Wisconsin, the St. Croix River is one of the nation's first federally designated "Wild and Scenic" Rivers. It is home to a diverse abundance of native flora and fauna, rivaling any other location within the great Upper Mississippi River Basin. While the status of the St. Croix as a Wild and Scenic River comes with federal protections, it only applies to a thin ribbon of land directly adjacent to the riverway. More than 75% of the of the watershed remains in private ownership and is threatened with development, fragmentation, and conversion to agriculture.

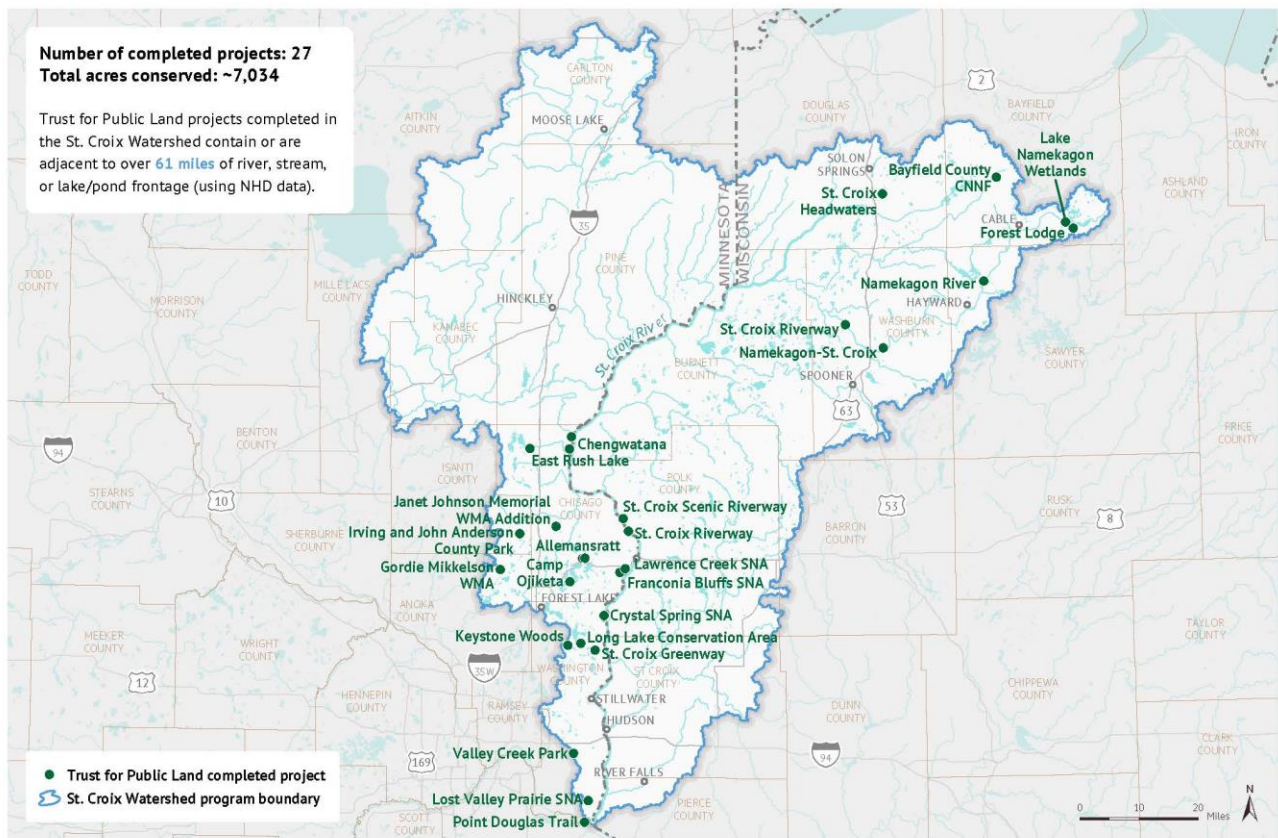
WHAT WE DO

The landscape of the St. Croix River contains large swaths of unspoiled ecosystems. Among its rolling barrens and brushlands are a plethora of wildlife. The pineries of this region thrive and sustain communities with seasonal economic boosts from visitors who come for an array of outdoor activities.

Trust for Public Land is proactively working in partnership with local governments and communities in the St. Croix Watershed. Together with our partners, we are acquiring high-priority property throughout the watershed to protect habitat and safeguard lands that increase outdoor access for people to enjoy.

RECENT WINS FOR CONSERVATION

- Chengwatana State Forest:** In 2022, TPL helped protect 729-acres along the St. Croix river as an addition to Chengwatana State Forest. Then in 2023, TPL had another extraordinary opportunity to protect an additional 241-acres, which originally had been used as an outdoor adventure camp for kids. For decades, these landscapes were closed to the public. Now, nearby communities are celebrating its conservation as they will be open to the public and provide opportunities to hunt, hike, and bird, while protecting water quality for people and wildlife.
- Point Douglas Regional Trail:** Located near where the St. Croix River meets the Mississippi River, Trust for Public Land worked with Washington County to acquire and convert an abandoned rail corridor into a 2.5 path trail that connects Hastings to Point Douglas beach.
- Forest Lodge:** Nestled in the Chequamegon National Forest outside of Cable, Wisconsin, is the magical estate of Forest Lodge. This property, a model of ecological stewardship, was protected by Trust for Public Land and conveyed to the U.S. Forest Service to ensure its protection and its future use as a hands-on Environmental Center.



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MINNESOTA RIVERS: SUB-PROGRAMS

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